

BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of

**EDWARD J. SAYEGH, M.D.**

Holder of License No. **40787**  
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine  
In the State of Arizona.

**Case No: MD-14-0344A**

**INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT,  
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER  
FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF  
LICENSE**

**INTRODUCTION**

The above-captioned matter came on for discussion before the Arizona Medical Board ("Board") at an emergency Board meeting held on June 26, 2014. After reviewing relevant information and deliberating, the Board voted to consider proceedings for a summary action against Edward J. Sayegh, M.D. ("Respondent"). Having considered the information in the matter and being fully advised, the Board enters the following Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Summary Suspension of Respondent's License, pending formal hearing proceedings or other Board action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

**INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 40787 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

3. After conducting a Formal Interview on April 3, 2013, the Board issued Respondent an Order in Case Number MD-12-0392A ("Order"). Pursuant to the Order, Respondent was required to complete Board approved Category I Continuing Medical Education in an intensive, in-person course in prescribing of controlled substances within six months. Respondent was also required to engage the services of a monitoring company ("Monitor") who was required to conduct quarterly chart reviews.

1           4. The Monitor issued two quarterly reports. Those reports found both  
2 standard of care and documentation issues<sup>1</sup> that raised ongoing concerns about  
3 Respondent's ability to safely and competently practice medicine.

4           5. As a result, the Board initiated case number MD-14-0344A. On May 7,  
5 2014, the Board entered into an Interim Consent Agreement ("ICA") with Respondent.  
6 Pursuant to the express terms of the ICA, Respondent was prohibited from prescribing,  
7 administering or dispensing controlled substances until he had taken and completed an  
8 evaluation conducted by The Center for Personalized Education for Physicians ("CPEP"),  
9 and had received the Board's permission to do so. To date, Respondent has neither  
10 taken and completed the CPEP evaluation nor received relief from the ICA from the  
11 Board.

12           6. Since May 7, 2014, Respondent has attempted to circumvent the practice  
13 restriction by forging another physician's signature on at least 16 prescriptions for  
14 controlled substances.

15           7. On June 24, 2014, a Criminal Complaint was signed. The Criminal  
16 Complaint alleges that Respondent engaged in 31 acts of criminal misconduct, including  
17 but not limited to, forgery, fraud, money laundering, illegal control of an enterprise and  
18 theft. Pursuant to the Criminal Complaint, an arrest was issued. On June 26, 2014,  
19 Respondent was arrested.

#### 20                           **INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

21           1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over  
22 Respondent, holder of License No. 40787 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the  
23 State of Arizona.

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<sup>1</sup> The Board's Outside Medical Consultant reviewed 10 patient charts and found that the charts contained multiple deviations from the record keeping standard of care.

2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(e) (“[f]ailing or refusing to maintain adequate records on a patient.”).

3. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(q) (“[a]ny conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public.”).

4. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) (“[v]iolating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter.”).

5. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(t) ("[k]nowingly making any false or fraudulent statement, written or oral, in connection with the practice of medicine or if applying for privileges or renewing an application for privileges at a health care institution.").

6. Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

## ORDER

Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, set forth above,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. Respondent's license to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona, License No. 40787, is summarily suspended. Respondent is prohibited from practicing medicine in the State of Arizona and is prohibited from prescribing any form of treatment including prescription medications or injections of any kind.

2. The Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law constitute written notice to Respondent of the charges of unprofessional conduct made by the Board against him. Respondent is entitled to a formal hearing to defend these charges as expeditiously as possible after the issuance of this order.

3. The Board's Executive Director is instructed to refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings for scheduling of an administrative hearing to be commenced as expeditiously as possible from the date of the issuance of this Order, unless stipulated and agreed otherwise by Respondent.

DATED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014.

ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

By: C. Lloyd Vest, II  
C. Lloyd Vest, II  
Executive Director

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this  
27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014, with:

**Arizona Medical Board  
9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85258**

Executed copy of the foregoing mailed by Certified  
Mail this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014, to:

Edward J. Sayegh, M.D.  
Address of Record

**Marc H. Harris**  
**Assistant Attorney General**  
**1275 West Washington, CIV/LES**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85007**

Amanda Schuabe  
Board Staff